



Funding Research Memo: Fuel Reduction on Public and Private Lands

Last updated: November 2017

THIS MEMO WILL BE UPDATED PERIODICALLY. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING RESOURCES, PLEASE CONTACT THE SNC FUND DEVELOPMENT TEAM: sncfundingteam@sierranevada.ca.gov.

CAVEAT – Grant guidelines and deadlines are subject to periodic change. Please check the program web sites for new information. The deadlines listed are projected from the last funding round and can be unreliable. Check the program’s web site!

Note: These grants focus on projects that remove excess trees and brush for forest health, wildfire protection, water quality, and streamflow enhancement. Grants focused on vegetation removal for meadow, riparian, or other habitat restoration can be found in the ‘Habitat Restoration and Enhancement’ and ‘Riparian, Wetland, and Aquatic Habitat’ funding research memos.

Funding Summary Table

(*Hyperlinks to more complete information below, including links to program websites)

PRIVATE LAND ONLY (Non-federal, may include local or state government-owned land.)				
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Programs	Cost-share with landowner. Amount varies by program.	Programs for watershed protection, riparian restoration, and wetlands restoration on private property. Also for non-industrial timberland forest health projects.	Ongoing	Varies by program. Contact your local NRCS office for information: http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=CA .
Non-Point Source (NPS) Grant Program - Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Funds	Grants range from \$250,000 to \$1 million. A 25% match is required.	Forest management measures on forestlands within the State Responsibility Area to improve water quality.	Varies (January 20, 2017)	Eligible forest management measures include streamside management areas, timber harvesting, revegetation, wetlands management, outreach and education, etc.
CAL FIRE California Forest Improvement Program	Cost-share with landowner. Amount varies – see User’s Guide.	To ensure adequate high-quality timber supplies, related employment and other economic benefits, and the protection,	Ongoing	Management planning, site preparation, tree purchase and planting, timber stand improvement, fish and wildlife habitat improvement, and land conservation practices.

Funding Research Memo: Fuel Reduction on Public and Private Lands

Last updated: November 2017

		maintenance, and enhancement of a productive and stable forest resource system.		
U.S. Forest Service Western Wildland Urban Interface Grants – CA Fire Safe Council	Up to \$300,000. 1:1 non-federal match required.	Projects in the Wildland-Urban Interface protecting communities at risk.	Varies (August 25, 2017)	Hazardous fuels reduction and maintenance projects on non-federal land (can include purchase of supplies and tools), Community Wildfire Protection Plans and other planning or assessment documents, and prevention and mitigation education and outreach opportunities for landowners and residents.
Federal Emergency Management Agency Pre-Disaster Mitigation Funding	No set amount. 25% match required, which can be reduced to 10% in small, impoverished communities.	Projects to protect life and structures from wildfires. Must be located in a Wildland-Urban Interface within two miles of homes and structures.	Due date for Notice of Interest (NOI) to the state varies (August 4, 2017)	Defensible space measures and hazardous fuel reduction. Not available for federal lands. Not available for forest health purposes. Projects must be located in a Wildland-Urban Interface, must be adjacent to or intermingled with the built environment, and must provide protection to life and the built environment from future wildfires. NEPA is required.
Bella Vista Foundation	Up to \$150,000. Other sources of funding are important.	Riparian restoration with the goal of enhancing and maintaining self-sustaining watershed ecosystems.	Varies	Restoration work and conservation easements.

Funding Research Memo: Fuel Reduction on Public and Private Lands

Last updated: November 2017

*Grant	Funding Range	Funding Focus	Estimated Deadline	Eligible Costs
BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LANDS				
Department of Water Resources Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grants	Depends on solicitation. General match requirement is 50%, but can be waived for disadvantaged communities.	Very broad – the project must address statewide priorities and be listed in the region’s IRWM Plan.	Set periodically. Proposition 1 implementation funding announcement expected in early 2018.	Very broad. One category of eligible projects is watershed protection, restoration and management projects, including projects that reduce the risk of wildfire or improve water supply reliability.
Sierra Nevada Conservancy Watershed Improvement Grant Program	Up to \$75,000 for planning grants and \$500,000 for implementation grants. Match not required but adds to score.	Projects that will promote healthy forests and watersheds in the Sierra Nevada Region.	September and sometimes March (<i>September 1, 2017</i>)	Fuel treatment and forest management projects are eligible, but must show impact on water or watershed health. There is funding for both planning and implementation projects.
California Department of Fire and Forestry (CAL FIRE) grants	Unknown, program is being revised. Previous grant program had maximum of \$5 million with no match required, but adding to score.	Healthy forest and fire prevention programs that improve forest health and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	January (<i>June 30, 2017</i>)	Vegetation management, forest overgrowth reduction, biomass energy generation, and measures to ensure future wildfires are more consistent with historic re-generative fire regime.
CA Resources Agency Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program	Grants up to \$500,000. Match is not required, but makes the application more competitive.	Projects designed to mitigate environmental effects of transportation facilities.	June or July (<i>June 21, 2017</i>)	Eligible projects include enhancement of resource lands to mitigate the loss of, or the detriment to, resource lands lying within or near the right-of-way acquired for transportation improvements.
U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities: Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grants	Grants up to \$250,000, depending on category of funding. General match requirement is 25%, but can be reduced to 10% if an undue hardship.	Accelerate the strategic protection of healthy, freshwater ecosystems and their watersheds.	February (<i>February 1, 2018</i>)	Project categories include watershed action projects, building watershed protection capacity, and advancing the state of practice. Funding is available for land stewardship activities which reduce wildfire hazards.
Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act of 2000 (Title II)	No set amount. No set match amount, though many projects appear to have leverage.	Projects implementing stewardship objectives which enhance forest ecosystems and restore	Applications accepted on a rolling basis.	Planning, implementation, community education and outreach, etc. These projects are mostly on public lands, but can be on private

Funding Research Memo: Fuel Reduction on Public and Private Lands

Last updated: November 2017

*Grant	Funding Range	Funding Focus	Estimated Deadline	Eligible Costs
		land health and water quality.		lands if the project will impact public lands.
National Forest Foundation Matching Awards Program	\$500 - \$100,000. Requires 1:1 cash match of non-federal funds.	Focus areas are forest health and outdoor experiences.	January and June (January 23, 2018)	On-the ground activities including habitat protection and enhancement, conservation projects, and stewardship projects.
Wildlife Conservation Board CA Streamflow Enhancement Program	No maximum or minimum. Match not required, but adds to score.	Projects that enhance stream flows and are consistent with the CA Water Plan, with an emphasis on providing and protecting enhanced stream flow, especially in those streams that support anadromous fish; special status, threatened, endangered, or at-risk species; or provide resilience to climate change.	September (August 31, 2017)	Planning, implementation, acquisition, monitoring, assessment, and scientific studies. Planning funding can include environmental review.
Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Programs	Wide range of funding, no specific limits. Some landowner contribution required.	Riparian restoration, inland wetlands, and other habitat restoration and improvement projects.	On-going. Board meets quarterly. Contact Program Officer.	Restoration and enhancement.
PG&E Wildfire Prevention Project Grants	\$200,000	Local initiatives to build greater climate resilience throughout Northern and Central California.	May (May 12, 2017)	Eligible projects include research, planning or demonstration projects that better prepare communities for a future with more frequent and extreme wildfires.



Funding Research Memo: Fuel Reduction on Public and Private Lands

Last updated: November 2017

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Programs

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ca/programs/financial/>

The NRCS offers a variety of programs that fund wetlands and riparian projects. These programs and the funding authorized for them through the Farm Bill change periodically. Usually they are cost share programs focused on privately-owned land, although sometimes they can be applied to a watershed in general, particularly in emergency watershed restoration circumstances. More information on these programs can be found [here](#).

The most popular NRCS program is the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). EQIP provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers in order to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation, or improved wildlife habitat. Eligible applicants include owners of non-industrial private forestlands.

The funding opportunities can be accessed by talking to staff in the local NRCS offices. To find a local office, go to [this site](#).

California Department of Fire and Forestry (CAL FIRE) State Responsibility Area (SRA) Fire Prevention Fund and Tree Mortality grant program

<http://www.fire.ca.gov/grants/grants>

The California State Responsibility Area (SRA) fee has been discontinued, and the grant programs utilizing those revenues will be replaced by grants utilizing Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds (GGRF). New guidelines for these grants are expected to be released in late 2017, and the expected deadline for pre-proposals is January or February, 2018.

Non-Point Source (NPS) Grant Program - Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Funds

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/nps/grant_program.shtml

The California Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program allocates funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to support implementation and planning projects that address water quality problems in surface and ground water resulting from NPS

Funding Research Memo: Fuel Reduction on Public and Private Lands

Last updated: November 2017

pollution¹. The goal of these projects is restoring the impacted beneficial uses in these water bodies. Projects are required to be located in a watershed that has an adopted/nearly adopted Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the constituent of concern and has been identified in the NPS Program Preferences. These priority watersheds and problems are listed in the grant guidelines.

In addition California appropriated the Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund (Timber Fund) for projects that implement forest management measures on forest lands to improve water quality. Examples of projects include ownership-wide erosion control, road management, riparian restoration, groundwater dependent ecosystems, nutrient management, riparian fuel management, and/or post fire rehabilitation.

The program used to include both planning and implementation grants, but for the general NPS grants the planning funding has been used up and the Water Board is only funding implementation projects. The new Timber Fund grants can be used for planning as long as the project also includes implementation, and the entire project can be completed within three years.

Eligible applicants include local public agencies, public agencies, nonprofit organizations (501[c][3]), federally recognized Native American tribes, state agencies, public colleges, and federal agencies. Applicants must work with the appropriate Regional Water Board Grant Contact when developing their proposals. Grant contacts are identified in the Grant Program Guidelines.

CAL FIRE California Forest Improvement Program

http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_forestryassistance_cfip.php

The California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) is a forestry incentive program that provides funds to forest landowners for management plans, Registered Professional Forester (RPF) supervision, site preparation, tree planting, thinning, pruning, follow-up, release, land conservation, and improvement of fish and wildlife habitat. The purpose of the CFIP is to encourage private and public investment in, and improved management of, California forestlands and resources. This focus is to ensure adequate high-quality timber supplies, related employment and other economic benefits, and the protection, maintenance, and enhancement of a productive and stable forest resource system for the benefit of present and future generations.

This is a cost share program in which the landowner shares a portion of cost (ten to 25 percent) and the state shares a portion of cost (75 to 90 percent). Additional caps apply (per-acre maximum costs).

¹ Unlike pollution from industrial and sewage treatment plants (point sources), nonpoint source (NPS) pollution comes from many diffuse sources. NPS pollution is caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries away natural and human-made pollutants, finally depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters and ground waters. See <http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/nps/whatis.cfm>.

Funding Research Memo: Fuel Reduction on Public and Private Lands

Last updated: November 2017

The program gets funding from a variety of different sources which can impact the type of activities. The current funding is from the High Speed Rail Authority, and only covers reforestation projects, which are used to offset direct greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the construction of the rail project. Proposals must account for the total carbon dioxide equivalents sequestered as a result of the reforestation activities, which is determined using the most recent greenhouse gas quantification methodology.

CFIP applications may be submitted at any time to the CALFIRE Unit in which the project occurs. Landowners wishing to apply for CFIP are encouraged to contact their CAL FIRE Unit Forester or the unit's Forestry Assistance Specialist (FAS), or their Registered Professional Forester (RPF) for assistance in developing their application package. See the [2017 CFIP User's Guide](#) for more information.

U.S. Forest Service Western Wildland Urban Interface Grant Program – CA Fire Safe Council

<http://www.cafiresafecouncil.org/grants-clearinghouse/>

The Western Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) grant program is a federal program offered through the California Fire Safe Council (CFSC). It funds the following areas of wildfire prevention:

- Hazardous fuels reduction and maintenance projects in the WUI
- Community Wildfire Protection Plans and other planning or assessment documents
- Prevention and mitigation education and outreach opportunities for landowners and residents in at-risk communities

There is a dollar for dollar or 50 percent cost share/match, which means the federal funding can account for up to 50 percent of the project's cost. The remaining 50 percent must come from non-federal sources and can include cash and/or third party in-kind contributions. The maximum grant award is \$300,000 and the duration is 24 months.

Projects are more competitive if they have the support of the local CALFIRE unit. There is also a preference for areas that have not received past funding from this grant program. Associating the project with a 'landscape-scale' effort will also increase competitiveness.

Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, property owners' associations, Native American tribes, resource conservation districts, state and local government, special districts, school districts, for-profit companies, and joint powers authorities.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Pre-Disaster Mitigation Funding

<https://www.fema.gov/pre-disaster-mitigation-grant-program>

<http://www.caloes.ca.gov/For-Governments-Tribal/Plan-Prepare/Pre-Disaster-Flood-Mitigation>

Funding Research Memo: Fuel Reduction on Public and Private Lands

Last updated: November 2017

The Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program is funding from FEMA that is granted to states, federally-recognized tribes, and local communities to help them implement a sustained pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation program. These funds can be used for hazard mitigation projects and planning activities. The state applies for this funding from the federal government and individual communities apply for the state to include their programs in the state's application.

Wildfire mitigation projects are allowable, but must meet a number of requirements, including being in conformance with the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Contact your county emergency services staff (often this is in the sheriff's department) to get a copy of this plan. Projects must have completed NEPA prior to funding. This can be a barrier because the amount of time required to complete NEPA is often longer than the grant period.

Projects must be located in a Wildland-Urban Interface, adjacent to or intermingled with the built environment, and provide protection to life and the built environment from future wildfires. Eligible activities include defensible space measures (immediately adjacent to structures) and hazardous fuel reduction (beyond defensible space perimeters, but proximate to at-risk structures). All property owners who receive funds for fuel reduction for defensible space must commit to maintaining that defensible space.

General watershed protection activities are not eligible; the funding must be directed towards the protection of homes, neighborhoods, structures, or infrastructure. Projects on federal land are also ineligible. Prescribed burning is not allowed.

The first step in obtaining PDM funding is to submit a Notice of Interest form to the state. This can be done [online](#). In general, a cost share of 25 percent is required, though this can be reduced to ten percent in small, impoverished communities.

These are very complicated grants. If considering an application, it is wise to track down a staff person at the state OES for guidance.

Bella Vista Foundation

<http://www.bellavistafoundation.org/>

Under its ecosystem restoration grant category, the foundation focuses on protecting, restoring, and revitalizing high-priority watershed ecosystems in California and Oregon. Within these watersheds, the priorities are promoting the sustainable management of forest and agricultural land, revitalizing streams, and restoring riparian areas, with the goal of enhancing and maintaining self-sustaining watershed ecosystems. Target watersheds in California include the Mattole River watershed; the mid-Klamath/Scott/Shasta Rivers; the McCloud tributary of the Sacramento River; and in the Sierra Nevada, the Truckee River watershed and Yuba/Bear/American Rivers.

No specific match is required, but the foundation strongly prefers not to be the sole or primary source of funding.

CA Department of Water Resources – Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grants

<http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/prop1index.cfm>

The Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) grant program is an effort to develop collaborative approaches to identifying and implementing water management solutions on a regional scale. The state is divided into twelve funding areas, each of which is allocated a portion of the overall IRWM grant funds. Each funding area is divided into regions. These regions can be based on county lines, watersheds, or other factors. The IRWM activities in each region are governed by the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG). These RWMGs are responsible for identifying needs and approving IRWM grant applications in alignment with an IRWM regional plan.

IRWM grants are now funded through Proposition 1. In order to be approved, the proposed grant activity must be included in the IRWM Plan. These Plans can be amended and modified by the RWMG. So if you are considering funding your project through IRWM funding, check the IRWM Plan for your region and if the project is not already part of the plan, take steps to have it added.

IRWM grants do not have a standard maximum amount; this is set in each solicitation. The general match requirement is 50 percent, though that can be waived or reduced if the project addresses the needs of a disadvantaged community.

The scope of IRWM grant projects is very large. The projects have to address statewide priorities, which are listed in the program solicitation. One category of eligible projects is watershed protection, restoration and management projects, including projects that reduce the risk of wildfire or improve water supply reliability.

Sierra Nevada Conservancy Watershed Improvement Program Grants

<http://www.snc.ca.gov/other-assistance/prop1-grantprog>

The focus of this Proposition 1-funded grant program is forest health projects that result in multiple watershed benefits, consistent with the following purposes:

- Implementing fuel treatment projects to reduce wildfire risks, protect watersheds tributary to water storage facilities, and promote watershed health
- Protecting and restoring rural and urban watershed health to improve watershed storage capacity, forest health, protection of life and property, and reduce greenhouse gases
- Implementing watershed adaptation projects in order to reduce the impacts of climate changes on California's communities and ecosystems

Funding Research Memo: Fuel Reduction on Public and Private Lands

Last updated: November 2017

The program has two funding categories: Category 1 for implementation projects (maximum \$500,000) and Category 2 for project planning (maximum \$75,000). A funding match is not required, but leverage will add to point scores. Eligible applicants include local and state public agencies (federal agencies are not eligible), qualifying nonprofit organizations, and certain tribal organizations.

In order to be eligible to receive a grant award from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) under this program, projects must meet **all** of the following criteria:

- Be located within a conifer or mixed-conifer forested area of the Sierra Nevada Region, or have a direct impact on forest lands and waters within the Region
- Be consistent with the SNC mission and program areas as defined in the SNC Strategic Plan and the Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program as they relate to forest health
- Meet the requirements of Proposition 1 in regard to forest and watershed health

Applicants are encouraged to meet with SNC Area Representatives (listed in the Grant Guidelines) to discuss their projects prior to submitting an application.

CA Resources Agency Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program

<http://resources.ca.gov/grants/environmental-enhancement-and-mitigation-eem/>

The Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEMP) is designed to fund projects that contribute to mitigation of the environmental effects of transportation facilities. Eligible projects must be directly or indirectly related to the environmental impact of the modification of an existing transportation facility or construction of a new transportation facility. This means that the proposed project must be in the immediate vicinity or general area of work done on a public street, highway, mass transit guideway (trains, ports, light rail lines, city streets, airports, etc.) or appurtenant features (park and ride facilities, high-occupancy vehicle lanes, transit stations, etc.). These are called 'Related Transportation Facilities' (RTF). Not all road work qualifies; see the guidelines. The RTF must have been constructed after January 1, 1990, or not yet have been constructed but is planned and budgeted, and has completed environmental reviews. You can identify eligible RTFs by contacting your City or County Transportation Department, Regional Transit Agency, Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA), Council of Local Governments (COG), Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), or Caltrans District Office. You will need a lot of documentation from this transportation agency, so contact it early in the process.

Project categories:

- Urban forestry projects designed to offset vehicular emissions of carbon dioxide
- Resource lands projects for the acquisition or enhancement of resource lands to mitigate the loss of, or the detriment to, resource lands lying within or near the right-of-way acquired for transportation improvements
- Mitigation projects beyond the scope of the lead agency responsible for assessing the environmental impact of the proposed transportation improvement

The EEMP encourages projects that produce multiple benefits which reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase water use efficiency, reduce risks from climate change impacts, and demonstrate collaboration with local, state, and community entities. Eligible applicants are local, state, and federal governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations.

The maximum grant is \$500,000. Match funding is not required, but contributes to the competitiveness of the project.

U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities: Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grants

<http://www.usendowment.org/healthywatersheds.html>

The Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program is a partnership that includes the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Water's Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the U.S. Endowment for Forests and Communities. The goal of the program is to accelerate strategic protection of healthy, freshwater ecosystems and their watersheds. A healthy watershed is defined as one in which the hydrological, biological, and land-based functions of the ecosystem are largely intact. Rather than funding direct on-the-ground work, the program is interested in developing funding mechanisms and strategies to implement large-scale watershed objectives, including building sustainable organizational infrastructure, social support, and long-term funding commitments. It also funds innovative or catalytic projects that advance the field of practice.

Awards are given in three categories:

- *Watershed Action Projects* are specific projects that fulfill components of an established plan or guiding document. The projects should cover a large landscape area and significant leverage is required.
- *Building Watershed Protection Capacity* awards grow the organizational capacity needed for large-scale, long-term healthy watershed protection.
- *Advancing the State of Practice* —Awards for new or experimental technologies, methods, financing strategies, or approaches to incentivize watershed protection that can be scaled to a broader level.

Eligible applicant include nonprofit organizations, for-profit companies, tribes, intertribal consortia, interstates, state, and local government agencies including water utilities and wastewater facilities, and colleges and universities. Unincorporated individuals and federal agencies are not eligible. Public/private partnerships are particularly desirable.

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Title II)

http://www.fs.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsinternet!/ut/p/c4/04_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os3qjAwhwtDDw9_Al8zPwhQoY6BdkOyoCAPkATIA!/?ss=119985&navtype=BROWS

[EBYSUBJECT&cid=FSE_003853&navid=091000000000000&pnavid=null&position=BR
OWSEBYSUBJECT&tttype=main&pname=Secure%20Rural%20Schools-%20Home](#)

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act provides funding for counties where much of the land is designated as National Forest. The purpose of the funding is to help compensate for the lack of tax revenue that would have been generated if the land were privately owned. The funds available represent a percentage of the receipts that the U.S. Forest Service collects from timber, grazing, land use, and other revenue-generating activities. The program provides funding for schools and roads, makes additional investments in projects that enhance forest ecosystems, and aims to improve cooperative relationships. There are several categories of funding in the Act, and counties have options on which of these categories to select. One category of funding is Title II. These funds may be used for the protection, restoration, and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, and to achieve other resource objectives consistent with the Act. The projects must either be located on National Forest land or on non-federal land where projects would benefit the resources on the National Forest.

Projects can:

- Improve the maintenance of existing infrastructure
- Implement stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems
- Restore and improve land health and water quality

At least 50 percent of all Title II funds must be used for projects that are primarily dedicated to road maintenance, decommissioning, or obliteration; or restoration of streams and watersheds. Specific types of projects that are often funded include:

- Road, trail, and infrastructure maintenance or obliteration
- Soil productivity improvement
- Improvements in forest ecosystem health
- Watershed restoration and maintenance
- Restoration, maintenance, and improvement of wildlife and fish habitat
- Control of noxious and exotic weeds
- Re-establishment of native species

Each county electing to administer Title II project funds works with the U.S. Forest Service to establish Resource Advisory Committees (RACs) that will recommend how the Title II funds should be spent. Find a local Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) and see a list of the projects it has funded [here](#). Applications to the RACs can be submitted [online](#).

The size of the grants varies widely depending on the amount of funding available, competition from other projects, and other factors. Contact RAC members or a local U.S. Forest Service staff person who is assigned as the 'designated federal official' to get more information about the typical size of grants given locally.

National Forest Foundation Matching Awards Program

<http://www.nationalforests.org/conserve/grantprograms/ontheground/map>

The NFF Matching Awards Program (MAP) is a grant program that provides matching funds for direct on-the-ground projects that have an immediate, quantifiable impact on America's National Forests and Grasslands. MAP supports the strategic focus areas of Forest Health and Outdoor Experiences.

Projects that fit into the Forest Health program area are results-oriented, on-the-ground, citizen-involved projects that maintain and/or restore forest resiliency by:

- Promoting ecosystem structure, function and diversity; and/or
- Promoting forest health through the removal or control of non-native invasive species, and/or reintroduction of native plants and trees.

Projects should be consistent with or supportive of identified large-scale conservation initiatives.

Eligible applicants are nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations and Native American tribes working on or adjacent to National Forests and Grasslands throughout the U.S. The average award is around \$25,000. Deadlines are twice a year in January and June.

Wildlife Conservation Board CA Streamflow Enhancement Program

<https://www.wcb.ca.gov/Programs/Stream-Flow-Enhancement>

This program allocates funds to projects that enhance stream flows, especially in those streams that support anadromous fish, special status, threatened, endangered, or at-risk species; or provide resilience to climate change. Projects must measurably enhance stream flows at a time and location necessary to provide fisheries or ecosystem benefits that improve upon existing flow conditions.

One eligible project type is habitat restoration projects (e.g., weed eradication, wet meadow restoration, restoration of entrenched streams, upper watershed restoration or forest thinning) that reshape stream hydrograph. Funding can be used for planning, implementation, acquisition, studies, monitoring, and assessments. Eligible grantees are public agencies, nonprofit organizations, public utilities, federally recognized Indian tribes, state Indian tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation list, and mutual water companies.

Matching funds are not required, but leverage adds points in scoring.

Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) Programs

<https://www.wcb.ca.gov/Programs>

The state WCB has several relevant programs, including its [Riparian](#), [Forest Conservation](#), and [Habitat Enhancement and Restoration](#) Programs.

Funding Research Memo: Fuel Reduction on Public and Private Lands

Last updated: November 2017

The WCB programs emphasize partnerships and have a great deal of flexibility. Each program web page has a link to the program officer. Contact the program officer for information on how to submit an application and how to maximize your chance of obtaining funding. Eligible applicants include 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, local governmental agencies, state departments, and federal agencies. More information on the grant process can be found at: <https://www.wcb.ca.gov/Applications>.

The WCB meets four times a year, typically in February, May, August, and November. Processing time for applications can vary depending on completeness of the application, project benefits, and funding availability.

PG&E Wildfire Prevention Project Grants

<https://pge.com/resiliencegrants>

PG&E has a [general grant program](#) which includes modest funding (around \$5,000) environmental projects. However in addition to this, they also made a commitment in 2017 to provide \$1 million in grants over a five-year period (\$200,000 per year, usually awarded to just two organizations). These grants are for projects that will build healthy and resilient forests and watersheds to help communities prevent and prepare for increasing wildfire risk. Eligible projects include research, planning or demonstration projects that better prepare communities for a future with more frequent and extreme wildfires. Applicants must be a governmental organization, educational institution or 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, and must also include a local government within PG&E's Northern and Central California service area as a partner. Evaluation criteria include demonstrated partnerships, replicability, assistance to disadvantaged communities, and measurable impact.